

REMARKS

This Request for Reconsideration After Final is prepared in response to the Final Office Action mailed on 6 January 2009 (Paper No.20090102).

Claims 1-36 have again been variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over Azema *et al.* (Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-334685) in view of Azema (U.S. Patent No. 5,705,290) or obvious over Yamashita (Japanese Patent Publication No. 07-169506) in view of Aaltonen (U.S. Patent No. 6,824,917) or as obvious over Azema *et al.* in view of Azema '290 and further in view of Cho (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0077484) or as obvious over Yamashita in view of Aaltonen and further in view of Azema *et al.*

Furthermore, the Examiner has responded to the arguments contained in the previously filed Request for Reconsideration on pages 8 and 9 of the Final Office Action.

It is submitted that claims 1-36 are patentable over the proposed combinations of references for the following reasons:

The Examiner has again admitted that neither Azema *et al.* nor Yamashita teaches pressfitting a lead plate to tightly attach the lead plate without welding as recited in the independent claims.

The Examiner then again argues that Azema '290 and Aaltonen respectively teach the features deficient in Azema *et al.* and Yamashita.

Applicant strongly disagrees with a Examiner in that the cited portion of Azema '290 merely states that: "The external positive electrode 1 is inserted into the case 2 and fastened by **staking**." (Emphasis added).

Furthermore, the Examiner's attention is directed to lines 43-45 of column 3 of Azema '290 which indicates that recess sections 2g into which engaging pawls of the latter described holding plate 9 **will be bent for fastening**.

Thus, Azema '290 does not teach or suggest pressfitting a lead plate to tightly attach the lead plate without welding as recited in the independent claims.

Similarly, the cited portion of Aaltonen merely states: "the insulation plate 14 includes a recess check portion 120 having substantially a size and shape to nest the body 130 of the safety component 26 with the major surface 132 of the body 130..."

The Examiner's attention is directed to the paragraph beginning online 10 of column 5 of Aaltonen which indicates that an aluminum cap or collar 50 is joined to the can structure 12 by **welding**.

Thus, Aaltonen does not teach or suggest pressfitting a lead plate to tightly attach the lead plate without welding as recited in the independent claims.

Since neither Azema '290 nor Aaltonen teach or suggest the above-noted feature admittedly deficient and Azema et al. and Yamashita, it is submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are patentable over the proposed combinations of references and should therefore not be in a condition suitable for allowance.

In the Examiner's Response to Arguments, the Examiner argues that "the electrode is pressed into hole (2h) and is not welded."

However, the Examiner has incorrectly equated “press fitting” with “staking”.

The term “press fitting” means arranging a shaft, for example, in an aperture in an element which is the same diameter as the shaft, thereby securely fastening the shaft to the element.

The term “staking” means arranging a shaft, for example, through an aperture in an element which has a greater diameter than that of the shaft and then bending, twisting, or otherwise upsetting the shaft so as to have a diameter greater than the aperture, thereby securely fastening the shaft to the element.

United States Patent No. 7,463,711, United States Patent No. 7,455,431, and United States Patent No. 7,455,009 respectively use of the term “staking” as follows:

The bolt 26 is arranged in a configuration such that the bolt 26 cannot be removed from the body 38 and the spring 22 in a detorqued condition. The body 38 may be staked during manufacturing such that the ***removal of the bolt 26 from the body 38 and the spring 22 is prevented due to bolt material exceeding bolt hole 52 dimensions.*** The ***staking*** procedure eliminates concerns for loose parts, thereby encouraging foreign material exclusion from sensitive areas of the nuclear reactor.

The frame assembly 406 includes a spine tube 408 and a plurality of outer ribs 410 that accurately maintain the shape and position of the reflector assembly 404. In the illustrated embodiment, the inner periphery of the ribs 410 are shaped to match the outer periphery of the reflector assembly 404, i.e., dimensioned to fit around the reflector assembly 404. The ribs 410 are rigidly attached to the spine tube 408 so they are all in line and cannot rotate. The entire structure may be cast as one piece of metal or plastic, or separate parts that

are attached to one another. Any suitable attachment means can be used. For example, the ribs 410 may be attached to the spine tube 408 by gluing, cementing, welding, *press fitting*, snapping, hot *staking*, or fastening with suitable hardware (e.g., screws, bolts, rivets, clips, etc.).

Referring now to Figure 4, rotor assembly 18 is illustrated, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Rotor assembly 18, as mentioned above, includes rotor 22 which has a pair of pin supports 60 and 62 that together with the pin 64 form the first hinge portion 26. Pin 64 has a diameter or profile that substantially corresponds with the profile of the curved surfaces 42 and 44 of the second hinge portion 28 of the swash plate 16. Pin 64 is press fitted into a bore in pin supports 60 and 62. Of course, the present invention contemplates the use of other methods for securing pin 64 to pin supports 60, 62, for example, by slip fitting the pin in bores in supports 60, 62 and securing the pin by staking, snap rings, welding or press fit caps. Thus, the aforementioned hinge configuration allows swash plate 16 to rotate about the pin 26 of the first hinge portion 26.

It is clear from the above-noted passages that “staking” does not correspond to “press fitting”.

Thus, neither Azema nor Yamashita teach or suggest press fitting a lead plate to tightly attach the lead plate without welding as recited in the independent claims.

With regard to the Examiner’s comments regarding Aaltonen, nesting the body 130 of the safety component 26 into a recessed portion 12 does not mean that the body 130 is press fit into the recessed portion 12 but merely means that the recessed portion 12 can accommodate the body 130 of the safety component 26.

Thus, Aaltonen also does not teach or suggest press fitting a lead plate to tightly attach the lead plate without welding as recited in the independent claims.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present claims are patentable over the applied references, taken either alone or in combination, and should therefore now be in a condition suitable for allowance.

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action upon all of the claims now present in the application is respectfully requested.

No fee is incurred by this Request for Reconsideration After Final.

Respectfully submitted,

/Robert E Bushnell/
Robert E. Bushnell,
Registration No.: 27,774

Customer No. 008439
2029 "K" Street N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20006-1004
(202) 408-9040

Folio: P56999
Date: 2/26/09
I.D.: REB/HMZ